CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for preventing copying of video images projected onto a screen, the method comprising the steps of:

a) selecting a scanning sequence from a plurality of predetermined scanning sequences;

b) projecting a plurality of colored light beams onto the screen concurrently with the images, in accordance with the selected scanning sequence, for a finite period of time; and

c) repeating steps a) and b) at least one time.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the scanning sequences in step a) includes scrolling the plurality of colored light beams.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the scrolling includes horizontal scrolling.

4. The method according to claim 2, wherein the scrolling includes vertical scrolling.

5. The method according to claim 2, wherein the scrolling includes diagonal scrolling.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the scanning sequences in step a) includes flashing the plurality of colored light beams.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the step c) is performed when a predetermined event occurs.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the predetermined event occurs in the images.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the predetermined event that occurs in the images is selectively placed into the images.

10. The method according to claim 1, wherein the selecting step is performed randomly.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein a scanning rate of at least one of the scanning sequences is selected based on a content of the projected image.

12. The method according to claim 8, wherein the predetermined event includes an aspect of the content in the image, the content of the image determining when a mark is to be placed in the images.

13. The method according to claim 8, wherein the predetermined event includes at least one of a predetermined level of a known color, a known image, a known period of time, and a mark selectively placed in the images.

14. A method for preventing copying of video images projected onto a screen, the method comprising the steps of:

a) selecting a scanning rate from a plurality of predetermined scanning rates;

b) projecting colored light beams onto the screen concurrently with the images, in accordance with the selected scanning rate, for a finite period of time; and

c) repeating steps a) and b) at least one time.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the selection of scanning sequences is a random selection.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the scanning rate of at least one of the scanning sequences is selected based on the content of the projected image.

17. The method according to claim 14,, wherein the step c) is performed when a predetermined event occurs.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein the predetermined event occurs in the images.

19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the predetermined event that occurs in the images is selectively placed into the images.

20. The method according to claim 17, wherein the predetermined event includes an aspect of content in the image, the content of the image determining when a mark is to be placed in the images.

21. The method according to claim 17, wherein the predetermined event includes at least one of a predetermined level of a known color, a known image, a known period of time, and a mark selectively placed in the images.

22. An apparatus for preventing copying of video images projected onto a screen, the apparatus comprising:

a light source device for generating a plurality of colored light beams onto the screen concurrently with the images;

a processor for causing the light source to project the colored light beams onto the screen in accordance with a selected scanning sequence, for a finite period of time.

23. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the selected scanning sequence is made randomly.

24. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein a scanning rate of the scanning sequence is selected based on the content of the projected image.

25. The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein processor selects a different scanning sequence when a predetermined event occurs.

26. The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the processor further causes the light source to project the colored light beams onto the screen in accordance with a randomly selected scanning rate, for a finite period of time.

27. The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein processor randomly selects a different scanning rate when a predetermined event occurs.

28. The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the light source includes a plurality of light-emitting diodes, wherein at least two of the light-emitting diodes produce two different colors.